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APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS

As kisses go by favor, so public buildings go by "pull."

That is the opinion of Treasury Department officials at Washington and they have prepared statistics to sustain their position.

What is more, they are trying to formulate a plan by means of which Senatorial and Congressional influence will not be the only reason for the expenditure of public moneys in the construction of government buildings. They think that such appropriations should be based upon the practical necessities of the case rather than upon the possible number of votes which the securing of the building may bring to the member who introduced the bill.

Just as there is now an effort to bring the river and harbor appropriations out of the domain of politics, and systematize them so as to bring the best and most lasting effects for the commerce of the country so should there be, in their opinion, a well-defined programme governing the erection of postoffices and court houses in the different States and cities.

The Department has not progressed far in outlining its proposed plan, nor is there any promise that, if it had, the members of Congress would willingly forego their annual or biennial scramble over this "pork barrel."

It is the opinion of the Treasury officials, however, that something more than the population or wealth of a town should be taken into consideration when passing upon the question as to whether it is entitled to a public building.

Other things that should be considered, according to the Treasury men, are the character of the business transacted in each place and the government revenues collected. Thus a manufacturing town, or one in which there is a thriving revenue producing business, ought to take precedence over a staid, quiet residential town or suburb, even though the latter can show a preponderance of wealth.

Still another item is the question of illiteracy in a community, it being obvious that, whereas a large proportion of the inhabitants are unable to read or write, the postal receipts will not be so great as in a smaller place where education is more widely diffused.

Since 1878, the first record of the construction of a public building by the government, there has been expended \$968,210,684 in the purchase of sites and the erection of buildings to house the various government offices throughout the country. Of this amount New York received 16.53 per cent; Massachusetts 5.39 per cent; Pennsylvania, 7.21 per cent; Ohio, 5.68 per cent; Illinois, 5.47 per cent; California, 5.18 per cent; and Missouri, 4.35 per cent.

Taking the wealth and population of the several States as a basis for calculation there is, proportionally, still due to New York \$5,441,227; Pennsylvania, \$7,486,604; Illinois, \$8,545,628; Ohio, \$3,362,376; Texas, \$3,620,089; Iowa, \$3,587,496; and New Jersey \$2,484,616. Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma are all more than \$2,000,000 below their appropriations upon this basis. Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi are all more than \$1,000,000 below.

On the other hand Louisiana has received an excess on that same basis, of \$1,381,773; Maine, \$1,160,951; Colorado, \$1,936,819; South Carolina, \$788,786; and California, \$444,863. There is a disposition to assign as the reason for these excesses the fact that the Democratic votes of the two Louisiana Senators generally have been greatly desired by the Republican party; that Senators Hale and Frye throughout their long terms have not overlooked the wants of their State of Maine; that former Senator Teller and Wolcott, of Colorado, were disposed to be independent at times and had to be kept in good humor; that Senator Hillman has emphatically demanded that his State, South Carolina, should have a share of the "good things going around;" and that Senator Perkins of California has been a member of one of the appropriation committees for a number of years.

A list has been prepared showing 232 cities with a population of more than 5,000 in 1900, which have no postoffice buildings and a list of the postal receipts for the fiscal year 1909. Here are a few at random from the

long list with the receipts collected: Santa Barbara, Cal., \$44,943; Stamford, Conn., \$67,395 (bill introduced this season); Urbana, Ill., \$28,091; Shelbyville, Ind., \$23,541; Waltham, Mass., \$54,887; Leominster, Mass., \$32,894; Port Huron, Mich., \$66,134; East Grange, N. J., \$82,877; Passaic, N. J., \$90,863; New Rochelle, N. Y., \$66,788; Elyria, O., \$44,043; Piqua, O., \$37,050; Warren, Pa., \$124,972; and Tyrone, Pa., \$63,330.

Then there is another list of 145 cities with a population of 5,000 and less in 1900 which have public buildings, which makes an interesting comparison with the preceding examples. The postal receipts are for the year 1909. Harrison, Ark., has a \$100,000 building, receipts, \$736; Hope, Ark., a \$50,000 building, receipts, \$1,821; London, Ky., \$105,000 building, receipts, \$1,459; Devil's Lake, N. D., \$150,000 building, receipts, \$4,344; Florence, S. C., \$100,000 building, receipts, \$2,234; Deadwood, S. Dak., \$212,000 building, receipts, \$5,631; Pierre, S. D., \$115,000, receipts, \$3,407; Greenville, Tenn., \$110,000 building, receipts, \$3,339; Big Stone Gap, Va., \$100,000 building, receipts, \$693; Port Townsend, Va., \$251,000 building, receipts, \$2,971; and Lander, Wyo., \$122,000 building, receipts, \$805.

These are only a few instances of the situation attributed by Treasury officials to "political pull." They argue that the showing is sufficient to make it desirable that some definite plan should be worked out to cover the erection of buildings in the future.

The Powell-Fleming bread box primary attempted to be held on yesterday for the Republican party was about the most miserable failure of anything ever attempted in Marion county. It was such a fizzle that they were ashamed of it themselves, and began at once to send out false reports of the number of votes polled. Their stronghold was Fairmont district. Here, with the use of Scott and corporation boodle, Democratic influence, misrepresentation and repeating, their vote was so insignificant, that they felt they should report it more than twice the actual vote polled in order to make any show of support. The colored voters were well supplied with coin of the realm to attend the Rumpers' primary.

Where the people were informed as to the character of the Rumpers' movement, no election could be held for want of persons to conduct it. The vote polled, outside of the purchasable vote, was almost entirely of persons who were misled into believing that they were voting in a regular Republican primary. But with all the advertising, and agitation by the Rumpers, the post office force throughout the county, aided by the State committee, Democrat influence, and Scott and corporation money, the vote polled was a terrible set-back to the Rumpers, and shows that Republicans of Marion county do not endorse the Fleming-Powell kind of politics. It means that they must go over to the Democrats and dwell with those whom they have been serving so well.

The returns from the rump primary yesterday are hedged about with great secrecy for the rumpers are so humiliated over the result that they won't give out anything. However, enough has been learned to show beyond doubt that the post office aggregation is completely down and out. One instance serves as an example. The Times this morning reported 50 votes at Barrackville, whereas in fact there were but three votes cast. No election was held at Farmington and only 46 votes were registered in the whole of Lincoln district. The great June frost of many years ago was duplicated in the rump primary yesterday. The Powell-Fleming crowd, got the drubbing of their lives. It is almost inhuman to treat people as they were treated yesterday however much they deserve it.

Wonder if "President Taft endorses and approves of the kind of civil service examinations which Post Master Fleming has conducted for carriers and clerks? Senator Scott seems to, and it seems it is not contrary to the moral principles of Post Master General Hitchcock.

Lamar Powell, Tom Parks Fleming, Son Sweeney, and Sec. Dow, who have

monopolized Main street until yesterday don't seem to be much in evidence to-day. Wonder what they'll find to do now since Scott's money is over?

CONLEY AFTER THE RAILROAD

ATTORNEY GENERAL SEEKS TO DISSOLVE INJUNCTION ON RATE QUESTION.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., June 11.—The formal answer of Attorney General W. G. Conley and the prosecuting attorneys of fourteen counties to the bill of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway company, in the two-cent fare case, was presented to Judge Burdett, of the circuit court of Kanawha county yesterday. The answer denies the allegations of the plaintiff that the two cent law is unconstitutional, discriminatory and confiscatory and asks that the injunction heretofore granted the plaintiff, restraining the defendant from enforcing the law against that railroad be dissolved, and that the company be ordered to redeem such coupons as have been issued for passenger fares collected in excess of two cents per mile.

Following the action of Judge Burdett in holding the law unconstitutional in the Coal and Coke case the injunction in the Chesapeake and Ohio case was granted wholly on the ground of the unconstitutionality of the law. The supreme court of appeals later reversed Judge Burdett on this point and held the law constitutional on its face. Under this decision of the supreme court the injunction is asked to be dissolved.

The answer of Attorney General Conley denies that the passenger receipts of the railway company were decreased by the operation of the two-cent passenger fare law, but on the contrary, avers that the lower rate resulted in an increase of passenger traffic which more than offset the lower rate per mile. The answer also charges that the railway company has made various misrepresentations concerning the value of the road, and that the figures do not correspond to those returned to the State Board of Public Works for purposes of taxation.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

More Dailed Vote Is Reported on the Election of Thursday.

ELKINS, W. Va., June 11.—Late returns from Pendleton county show that Scott carried that county by 24, and Nutter, for State Senator, by 85; Forman, for congress, by nine. Complete returns from Randolph county give Scott for United States senate by 525, and Blue for State senate by 590 majority. Blackburn Ware was nominated for the legislature in Barbour over W. W. Ferguson by 70 majority. Avis was defeated for congress in Upshur by 25.

LILLY GETS LINCOLN.

Entire Delegation Is Instructed For Him Against Hughes for Congress.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., June 11.—The Lincoln county Republican convention, held at Hamlin to select delegates to the congressional convention at Welch, went on record as favoring the nomination of Hon. A. A. Lilly, of Raleigh county, to succeed Congressman James A. Hughes. The twenty-two delegates from the county were instructed for Lilly. The Hughes supporters, who were in the minority, did not contest and the convention passed off harmoniously.

POSTMASTERS NAMED.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 11.—Postmasters appointed: Bowden, Randolph county, Sidney Anglin, vice H. L. Bowden, resigned; Heyer, Braxton county, William B. Young, vice L. T. Cartwright, deceased; Iria, Ritchie county, Ida M. Merritt, vice S. W. Steart, resigned; Three Churches, Hampshire county, Ella S. Heiskell, vice E. S. Heiskell, deceased; Vicars, Roane county, Jefferson D. Kiser, vice F. E. Smith, resigned.



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PEOPLE'S FORUM

HUMANE OFFICER MAKES STATEMENT.

Editor West Virginian: As there have been several false statements given out to the public through the newspapers, I take this means of informing the public the facts of the investigation.

I was informed some time ago that there were charges being brought against R. H. Brown, field agent, and myself, in regard to the Humane work, by Nola McKinney and Flossie Fleming.

On June 3, I received a copy of the charges brought by them against myself and a notice that the investigations would be held at Wheeling June 4, and that the Board of Directors requested me to be present on that day, with affidavits, letters of recommendation, petitions and any other proofs that I might get in denial to the charges brought in the petition against me. I went prepared on that day with affidavits proving that all the charges brought against me were false and without foundation except a part of one charge, which stated that I would not work in harmony with the Fairmont Society.

And I absolutely did refuse to work with two members of that society and so told the board that they had not money enough to hire me to work with those two parties, on account of the various unreasonable demands as to what should and should not be done. If I had acceded to their demands, it would have been against the best interests of the West Virginia Humane Society, very annoying to the public, and would have lost me a great many friends.

In regard to the investigation, Mr. Brown's case was heard and he was exonerated and upon motion of my attorney charges were quashed and dismissed. The board was tired, having been in session three days, and they did not look at the affidavits or letters of recommendation gives me by a number of prominent men of Fairmont, or at the petition which was signed by fifty-nine of the business and professional men of the city, and among the best citizens of Fairmont whose names were secured in three hours time.

One of the members of the board had two petitions in his possession gotten up by the plaintiffs, after a thorough canvass of the city lasting two months, one of which contained 13

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Fairmont, West Va.

names and the other 16, including Bill Goodwine, colored, whose name was signed thereto.

There was no evidence given on the witness stand concerning myself excepting a statement made by Flossie Fleming, stating that she had hired me and the State was to pay me and I was to be her servant, which I had previously declined to be.

The board decided there was nothing in the charges against me and exonerated me and dismissed my case, but suggested that I resign the 1st of next month as they believed that it would be to the best interest of the West Virginia Humane Society to have an agent who would work in harmony with the plaintiffs.

I wish further to state to the public that the quarterly report of the State Society, shows my report second largest in the State.

The charges filed against me by the plaintiffs and the answer thereto and the affidavits in denial of charges and letters of recommendation and petition with names thereto are in my office and are open to the public for inspection.

Respectfully,
J. S. WALKER.

By-Lo

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Crane's Drug Store.

Western Judge—How thick you are! IN THE BEST OF HUMOR found guilty by the jury. Have you Ethel Poor Harold—he has brain anything to say to why I shouldn't fever. soak ye th' limit? Bertie—Impossible. Could a worm have water on the knee?—London Opinion.